

005-DTM
SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
901 COMMERCE ST STE 401
NASHVILLE TN 37203-3620

CARRIER ROUTE 291

39

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

MAY 8, 1997

VOL. 121

No. 14

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee

JUN 13 1997

THE BAPTIST

Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

MSU BSU commits to dual mission trips

The Mississippi State University (MSU) Baptist Student Union (BSU) recently sent two teams of students and staff members on Spring Break mission projects.

Fifteen students and Associate BSU Director June Scoggins went to Academia Los Pinares in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to lead their Religious Emphasis Week.

This project was sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Partnership Office and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Seven students and BSU Director Ken Watkins joined over 300 BSU students from as far west as Okla. State University and as far north as Penn. State University for BeachReach '97 in

They saw real hurts, loneliness, abuse, neglect, and an inner longing for real purpose in life. They experienced creative and innovative ways to minister to those needs," stated Scoggins.

At Academia Los Pinares, bilingual school with over 600 K-12 students, the BSUs led four chapel services daily.

Students gave testimonies, led praise music, performed puppetry and drama, and sang special music.

In addition, students participated in various school activities to build relationships and credibility with the students.

They watched and cheered for school soccer, basketball and volleyball games, and competed in intramural sports, highlighted by the faculty/BSUs vs. student games.

The MSU BSU students also assisted teachers of elementary grades, and spoke to the junior and senior high and Bible classes.

One student, David Matthews, an art major, even taught two elementary art lessons illustrating the names of Jesus.

In describing the week's experience, Suzanne Stephens of Eupora, wrote, "It was so wonderful to be able to share God's awesome power. Seeing these children long for the peace and love that we so often take for granted changed my life in so many ways. Being able to share God's love with them, and then seeing their faces light up, made the whole trip completely worthwhile."

"Seeing God working in such evident and obvious ways is wonderful. I realized this week just how awesome and powerful



ON MISSION — Relaxing at the Tegucigalpa, Honduras airport were MSU BSUs (seated on floor, from left) David Matthews, Josh Kilpatrick, Jeremy Kyser, Jill Stockstill, Holly Polk, June Scoggins, Elaina Dean, Scott Rhodes, Cassidy Ganas, (seated, from left) Ritchie Miller, Jennifer Adams, Kimberly Reynolds, Wade "Diego" Fisher, Lori McElhenney, and Suzanne Stephens. (BR special photos)

our God is! Also, the love and acceptance that the students showed us was a tangible form of God's real, unconditional love for all of his children," shared Elaina Dean of Starkville.

BeachReach '97 had six aspects — a pancake breakfast, free van rides, prayer teams, a nightly coffee house, street ministry, and a mime team.

"I learned to love people for who they are and not judge them by what they may have done. I know we planted many seeds in the lives of people; we served about 985 people in one morning at the pancake breakfast!" stated Kaci Kline, a sophomore from Franklin, Tenn.

Anthony Hubbard of Vicksburg had the special

privilege of leading someone to the Lord during the first night of street ministry.

He reflected, "The Lord used us as BeachReachers to share his love in the most unique ways. It was great to see what God did in the hearts of those we prayed with or ministered to, as well as in our own personal lives."

"The BeachReach mission trip to Panama City can be summed up in one word for me. Wow! I have never been on a trip that changed me so much. I was amazed at how God worked, and at how much he taught me in such a short time. This trip was truly awesome," said Heather Dendy, a freshman from Houston, Miss.



REACHING THE BEACH — MSU BSU BeachReach '97 participants included (front row, from left) David Brumbelow, Mollie Morgan, Kaci Kline, Heather Dendy, (back row, from left) Anthony Hubbard, Michael Granger, Ken Watkins, and Chris Roberts.

Panama City, Florida — a project sponsored by National Student Ministry and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"Both trips were marvelous experiences for our students.

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MK is first McVeigh trial witness

A Southern Baptist missionary kid was the prosecution's first witness April 25 at the Denver trial of Timothy McVeigh, accused of killing 168 people in the April 1995 bombing of Oklahoma City's Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Michael "Randy" Norfleet was among 850 people wounded in the blast two years ago. He is the son of Mike and Kay Norfleet, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionaries in the Ukraine since 1994.

Norfleet was age 29 at the time of the bombing and was working at the U.S. Marine Corps recruiting office. His wife Jamie was seven months pregnant. They were members of First Church, Stillwater, Okla. As a pilot during the Persian Gulf War, he flew 35 combat missions. Since the blast, Norfleet has retired from the Marines and moved to the Dallas area, where he sells digital testing equipment.

As the initial witness, Norfleet's post-bombing account of following a trail of blood from the building's sixth floor, with his own wounds wrapped in a shirt, appeared in newspapers across the country.

Looking back

10 years ago

Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, likely makes the most lasting impression of all the 12 Southern Baptists who responded to major addresses during the National Conference on Biblical Inerrancy, May 4-7 at Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina.

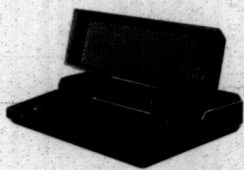
20 years ago

Covington and Jeff Davis Associations hold ground breaking ceremonies for a new missions center. The 3500-square-foot facility is expected to be completed and ready for use by early July. L. B. Atchison is director of missions.

50 years ago

Wilburn R. Roberts, currently serving as associate secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Sunday School Department, is elected Mississippi Brotherhood Secretary to succeed James H. Street, who resigned to return to the pastorate.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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Postmaster: Send changes of address
to The BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box
530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Send
news, communication, and address
changes to The Editor, BAPTIST
RECORD, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS
39205-0530 (601) 968-3800

VOLUME 121 NUMBER 14
(ISSN-0005-5778)

Published weekly except weeks of July 4
and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street,
Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$8.35 per
year payable in advance. Economy plans
available for cooperating Mississippi
churches. Periodicals postage paid at
Jackson, MS. Member, Association of State
Baptist Papers.

Put this book on your 'must read' list

He has been a Christian presence at the locus of virtually every major world event in the last half-century. He has always seemed bigger than life, a timeless role model who filled our stadiums to overflowing and utilized the medium of television as no one else to bring millions to salvation in Jesus Christ.

Many people have pleaded with him — and prayed earnestly that he would be led by God — to write down his life story in his own words.

Finally, it's here. "Just As I Am," the 730-page autobiography of Christian evangelist Billy Graham; 78, was released April 30 by HarperSanFrancisco/Zondervan publishers.

Since being ordained by the Southern Baptist Convention, his amazing 55-year career in worldwide evangelism has led him to preach the Gospel to 210 million people in 185 countries. There is scarcely an American alive today who has not heard Graham's forceful plea to follow Christ.

From his early years on a North Carolina dairy farm to his role as confidant to seven U.S. presidents during some of the most dangerous times in modern history, "Just As I Am" chronicles a life story that could have been brought about only under complete surrender to the will of God and the lordship of Jesus Christ.

There is his salvation experience and tutelage under Mordecai Ham, a colorful fire-and-brimstone preacher of another generation who led Graham to make his commitment to Christ.

There are the early efforts, like the shoe-string-budget Los Angeles tent revival in 1949 that had to be extended by popular demand from three weeks to eight weeks.

California publishing magnate William Randolph Hearst was so impressed that he sent a two-word message throughout his national newspaper empire: "Puff Graham." The resultant publicity rocketed Graham into the American consciousness.

There is the 1957 New York City Crusade, when cavernous Madison Square Garden was packed every night for sixteen weeks. *Sixteen weeks!*

Graham describes how his early experiences with the Youth For Christ organization after World War II led to his crusade ministry, and how the urgency he felt to reach remote mass audiences prompted him to try broadcasting the Gospel over a small Chicago AM-radio station in the infancy of electronic evangelism.

He also details a number of hair-raising — and sometimes comical — incidents from his journeys around the world, including a wheels-up airplane landing in a snowstorm and his near-arrest by a Canadian Mountie who mistook him for a bank robber.

Graham's ministry has included contacts with world leaders such as British prime minister Winston Churchill, the Shah of Iran, Soviet premier Mikhail Gorbachev, North Korean president Kim Il Sung, and Li Peng, who recently ascended to the top leadership position in communist China upon the death of Deng Xiaoping.

He has witnessed to political strongmen, dictators, mobsters, terrorists, and the worst of criminals. He has faced dangerous situations with the persistence of a first-century Apostle.

There were close calls. In Denver, an armed man posed as a security guard in an attempt to get close enough to assassinate Graham.

Police in Cleveland, Ohio, arrested three men with guns and a knife as they made their way to the platform during the invitation time at the close of a crusade.

In Copenhagen, Denmark, a security guard answered a knock on the door to Graham's room. Mistaking the security guard for Graham, a man threw blinding acid in the guard's face.

Throughout his phenomenal life, not a whiff of scandal has befallen Graham as it has so many other highly-visible men and women of God who couldn't cope with notoriety and lost their way.

Billy Graham admits he's only human and committed his share of mistakes, but to those of us who have spent a lifetime watching him hold high the banner of Christ all over the world, that's hard to believe.



In the parlance of the secular book world, Billy Graham's autobiography is a "must read." A quote from the book explains why:

"As I look back over the years, my deepest feeling is one of overwhelming gratitude. I cannot take credit for what God has chosen to accomplish through us, only God deserves the glory..."

The world would be a much better place in which to live if everyone felt that way.



Graham

JUST AS I AM
The Autobiography of Billy Graham

HarperSanFrancisco/Zondervan
\$28.50 (hardback)
ISBN 0-06-063389-1

Also available from HarperAudio:
Two 90-minute cassette tapes
ISBN 0-0694-51837-9

GUEST OPINION:

The happiest Mother's Day

By Jerry W. Mixon, pastor
Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale

Some time ago I wandered along the old pathway. It was the path that ran from our house to Uncle Carl's. It seemed as though the grass was always greener along the sides of this well-beaten path.

My brothers Robert and Joe, and my two sisters Sue and Pat, and I used to run down this lane playing cowboys. We would hunt wild game, play hide-and-seek, and swing from trees on vines.

Late in the afternoon, Mother would come to the back of the house.

She would stand on the steps and call, "Supper time!" Her voice wound its way down through the trees, vines, and flowers and entered our hut or den or playhouse.

No matter what was being done at the time, we stopped. Once again ten feet could be heard as they pounded their way down the path.

Pushing and shoving our way through the back door, we

took our place around the table. It made no difference to us if we had syrup and bread, bread and gravy, or if it was soup.

The warm feeling in our house did not come from the stove. The joy and the love was produced by my mother.

Many were the times she stood for hours over an old washtub in the backyard and scrubbed our clothes.

I have seen her prime the old pump when it looked as though the water she poured in was going to freeze.

My father was the head of our home, but mother was the heart. She was there when we needed her.

She cut out many a paper doll for Pat. She showed me how to tie a knot in a string and how to make a cup and saucer with thread.

Mother remembered many things about our childhood, but one thing from mine stands out above all others.

She remembered that Pat and I built a play church. Then we would take turns preaching to each other.

I remember Scotty and Booger, my two favorite dogs. I remember my first taste of green tomatoes in the garden.

However, the old path still stands out in my mind. There we would be building a fort to

fight off the enemy. Our plans were made, our play guns ready; and then bouncing from tree to tree came those delightful words, "Supper time!"

I will not see any of my family this Mother's Day — they all live in other cities.

I will not see my father or mother — they have gone on to glory.

I will not be in the woods, on the old path, or in my play church.

I will be standing in the pulpit of Rocky Creek Church, preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Then one day when this journey has come to the close, I shall again hear those grand and glorious words, "Supper time!"

I will close my eyes and sit down by mom and dad at my Father's table, forever and ever.

Revised from 1985 book, "Off the Main Road," by Jerry W. Mixon.

Southern Baptists gearing up for disaster relief

Southern Baptists prepared more than 100,000 hot meals in the first week of feeding during the recent Dakota/Minnesota flooding, said Jim Didlake, on-site coordinator for Miss. Baptist disaster relief work.

Didlake, consultant in the Brotherhood Department of the Miss. Baptist Convention Board

(MBCB), last week attended a disaster relief roundtable in Nashville, consisting of state leaders who annually gather to formulate Southern Baptist approaches to disaster work.

Didlake said feeding needs may increase and that additional disaster units, including Mississippi, may be needed.

"The major new area of work to be considered is mud-out and clean up," Didlake said.

He said cleanup trailers from S.C. and Ky. are already scheduled to go into the flooded areas, staffed with volunteers from all the states.

To volunteer for clean up, contact Ed Pope, Brotherhood

director for North Dakota Baptists, at (701) 255-3765.

Didlake said a representative from the Dakotas told the roundtable group that local press had acknowledged more help had come from Southern Baptists than any other group.

The Baptist leader told Didlake, "It's sad it took a disaster for people to have the awareness of what Baptists can do, but today there is a warmth for Southern Baptists that there hadn't been before."

Those wishing to financially assist victims may send checks designated for Dakota/Minnesota flood relief to MBCB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.



THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE

Nominations committee begins work

The Committee on Nominations of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) is soliciting recommendations for individuals to serve on MBC boards and commissions, according to P.J. Scott, committee chairman and pastor of First Church, Olive Branch.

A limited number of vacancies will be filled on:

- ◆ Board of Ministerial Education
- ◆ Christian Action Commission
- ◆ Education Commission
- ◆ Historical Commission
- ◆ Baptist Children's Village
- ◆ Miss. Baptist Health Systems, Inc. (Jackson)
- ◆ Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc. (Memphis)
- ◆ Blue Mountain College
- ◆ Mississippi College

◆ William Carey College

◆ Miss. Baptist Convention Board.

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Office of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

"The nominating committee will work in conjunction with the heads of institutions and agencies in bringing a list of nominees to be approved by the messengers at the 1997 annual meeting of the MBC," Scott said.

The 1997 MBC annual meeting will be held Oct. 28-29 at First Church, Jackson. Members of cooperating Mississippi Baptist churches who wish to serve as messengers should contact their pastor or church office.

Lum elected to youth evangelism post

By Tim Nicholas
MBCB Communications Director

Don Lum was elected April 29 by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) Executive Committee to serve as youth evangelism consultant, a new position in the MBCB evangelism department.

Lum, 43, will begin work June 2. He comes to MBCB from the staff of First Church, Columbia, where he has served since 1979 as minister of youth and activities.



Lum

Earlier positions for Lum included associate minister of family life at First Church, Greenville, 1978; minister of education at Eastside Church, Pearl, 1976-77; and minister of youth at Eastside Church, 1976.

Lum is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife Patricia have two sons.

The Executive Committee also approved preliminary plans for a special school for preachers; voted on the sale of some property at Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko; approved several policy changes; and heard a number of reports.

The Executive Committee set aside \$30,000 from the MBCB operating fund to develop an "Institute on Spiritual Principles," as described by Bill

Causey, MBCB executive director-treasurer.

Causey told the group he wanted to begin an ongoing program which would bring in pastors on perhaps a monthly basis to hear the best in the field on specific topics such as the spirit-filled life, early church fathers, evangelistic sermons and invitation, pastoral counseling, maintaining freshness, personal evangelism, and world missions.

The Executive Committee approved sale of 20 acres of land across the road from Central Hills Retreat for a total of \$20,000.

There was to be a stipulation that the property be used solely for a homestead.

Policy changes approved by the Executive Committee included:

◆ adding a year to new and used car loans for MBCB employees, making the loans four and three years, respectively. Loans are figured at the average rate of commercial paper plus two percent. Current rate is 7.6%.

◆ automatically tying travel allowances to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) allowable rates. Most MBCB staff travel will be reimbursed at 60% of the current 31.5 cents-per-mile IRS rate.

◆ reducing from ten years to five years the time period an individual must work at MBCB to be eligible for retirement medical and life coverage and a longevity appreciation gift.

The proposed change would require at least five years of service at MBCB plus other denominational or church service which totals at least 20

years, making a minimum combined service period of 25 years.

The Executive Committee received the annual MBCB audit from KPMG Peat Marwick.

Auditors termed the audit an unqualified report, meaning it was a "clean audit."

Also received was a report from an all-volunteer audit review committee that examines the audits of all MBCB agencies.

Barri A. Shirley, MBCB business administrator, said the report noted "no red flags."

Larry Otis of Tupelo, chair of the Clarke property committee, reviewed the status of the sale of the Clarke College campus in Newton to the State of Mississippi for a mental health facility.

He said the Miss. Baptist Convention should get the \$1 million from the sale in July or August when the state sells bonds to fund such purchases.

The Executive Committee authorized Causey to sign the contract for the sale, as reviewed by MBCB attorneys and certified as meeting conditions set forth by Mississippi Baptist Convention messengers.

Otis commended the Clarke alumni organization for the Christian spirit they have shown in preparing for the sale.

The Executive Committee approved three new board members:

◆ Robin Mathis of Chickasaw Association replacing David Kendall.

◆ Everett Childers of Lafayette Association replacing Marty Evans.

◆ Jerry Estes of Itawamba Association replacing Howard Peak.

In other business the Executive Committee approved a recommendation from Causey that \$20,000 be given from the operating fund to aid mission work in New England.

The Executive Committee also approved up to \$6,500 for renovations to the Mississippi Baptist Foundation office in the Baptist Building in Jackson to accommodate additional personnel.

Acteens Convention



Among the 485 Mississippi Baptist teenagers attending the 1997 Acteens Convention April 18-19 at the Ramada Inn Convention Center in Tupelo were (front row, from left) Olivia Bounds, Wendy McMillan, Michelle McCullough, Amber Barndale, (back row from left) Acteen leader Kristy Haygood, Amanda Miles, Delaney Reed, and Kimberly Booth. (BR special photo)

Caregivers must also take care of selves

By Carl M. White
Associate Editor

Final in two-part series

The combination of increased life expectancy and the aging of society is creating a critical concern for the care of the elderly, according to Frank Whittington, director of the Gerontology Center at the University of Georgia.

"You are not alone," said the featured speaker for a recent caregiving conference sponsored by Parkway Church, Clinton, in reference to the elderly in need of care and younger adults facing the probability of being the caregiver.

Whittington exposed several popular myths that get in the way of meaningful, caring relationships.

car, but not a wheel chair. If a dependency is not acceptable, we think of the person as no longer being independent.

"Getting or asking for help does not mean dependence," Whittington said.

Another myth is that long term care equals a nursing home.

"There are other ways of delivering long term care, however, nursing homes dominate our thinking," he said.

Home care is a real possibility today, he indicated. Instead of long term care, intermittent care is often what is needed.

"It is likely to see a person today who needs care for two to three months, and then is better," he said.

"Nursing home care became synonymous with all that is bad about aging. Going to the nursing home came to mean the end of life. If they don't abuse you, they will ignore you," he recalled.

Whittington pointed out that more stringent regulations and increased professionalism in the nursing home industry have led to higher levels of care.

"The myth of being dumped in a nursing home, abused and forgotten, is not reality. Most families visit and care for their loved ones who are in a nursing home," he said.

Yet, being a care receiver is not without its problems.

Whittington pointed out that 65% of all suicides in America are committed by senior adults.

"Feelings of dependency, uselessness, and worthlessness are linked to suicide. Social isolation, physical problems, dementia — these can all combine to bring on a state of depression," Whittington said.

"It is hard to be a care receiver when all of your life you have been a caregiver," he pointed out.

Many of the same feelings are also experienced by the new caregiver, who is frequently overwhelmed by feelings of guilt and inadequacy, he said.

"Guilt often comes as a result of decisions about caregiving that were not made before-hand. The more decisions made ahead of time, the better," he said.

A conference participant told of having to virtually abandon her immediate family to give needed care to an ill parent. "The caregiver can feel torn

between two sets of needs which are at odds against each other," Whittington pointed out.

The burden of caring has a price. It can result in the disturbance of sleep, the loss of appetite, mood changes, loss of energy, and other experiences.



"Increased dependence on medication and alcohol can also result from the pressures of care giving," he observed.

In addition, the displacement of negative feelings can lead to the abuse of the care receiver.

"It (caregiving) has the same kind of frustrations that can make a parent want to pick up, shake, and shout at a child to listen," Whittington said.

With guilt comes feelings of inadequacy. "The need is as big as this room," Whittington said as he gestured across the auditorium. "The caregiver cannot

meet them all."

Whittington made two suggestions to help the caregiver cope.

First, practice the concept of the Sabbath.

"Every caregiver

should observe a Sabbath — a day of rest, — to look up from your labor and take care of yourself," he said.

This means there are times the caregiver must ask for help. "It is arrogant of us to feel that we cannot take a break," he said.

Second, seek a support group. Caregivers are often cut off from support, Whittington indicated.

"It is the isolation of the caregiver that wears out the soul," he said.

HOMEcomings

New Hope (Webster): May 11; memorial services at Old Bethany; grave decoration and visitation will be at the cemetery prior to the 10:30 a.m. services at the church; covered dish at noon; Paul Weddle, pastor.

Moody at (601) 842-9688 or 841-1705 for more information.

New Black Jack, Philadelphia: May 25; services, 10:30 a.m.; noon meal; 1:30 p.m. singing; Gospel Warriors; Philadelphia, guest singers; Hugh Martin, pastor, speaker.

Mt. Moriah, Weir: May 18; 150th anniversary; former pastors will speak; Dale Nowell, pastor.

Spring Creek, Philadelphia: May 18; services, 10:30 a.m.; covered dish at noon and singing; Freeling Clower, speaker; Wayne King, pastor.

Mt. Gilead, Meridian: May 18; 150th anniversary; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m.; Charles Davis, New Hebron, guest speaker; Jerry Murphy, Meridian, music; Buddy Petty, pastor.

Chesterville (formerly Pleasant Valley), Tupelo: May 18; 116th year; services, 11 a.m.; meal following morning services; afternoon services presenting special music and testimonies; G. L. Ford, guest speaker; call Dean or Cathy

Concord, McCall Creek: May 25; services, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds; 1:15 p.m. service with money collected going to cemetery fund; Bobby Harrell, guest speaker.

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South Delta
P. O. Box 1776
Greenville, MS 39702-1776
378-3831 or 800-898-3055

Central MS
P. O. Box 4935
Jackson, MS 39296
981-1511 or 800-315-3103

North Central
711 B South Applegate
Winona, MS 38967
283-2675 or 283-2771

East Central
P. O. Box 499
Newton, MS 39345
683-2401 or 800-264-2007

Golden Triangle
P. O. Drawer DN
Mississippi State, MS 39762
325-3855 or 323-2636

Southern MS
1020 - 32nd Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39501
868-2311 or 800-444-8014

Three Rivers
P. O. Box 690
Pontotoc, MS 38863
489-2415 or 489-6911

Southwest MS
110 South Wall Street
Natchez, MS 39120
446-6044 or 800-338-2049

For a list of Alzheimer support groups across the state contact:
Alzheimer's Association
Middle Mississippi Chapter
5295 Galaxie Drive, Suite D
Jackson, MS 39206
(601) 987-0020

Associations: Risk Something New



Associational Missions Week
May 19-25, 1997

Today's association of churches reaches into its community as it risks new ways to share God's eternal Word.

Even in everyday, ordinary life, there are extraordinary ways to share Christ.

Today's association of churches is taking the risk.

Taking the risk for God.

"One of the biggest fears and concerns of the elderly is the loss of independence," Whittington said.

He said Americans like to think of themselves as independent, but in truth all are dependent.

"Who do you know that grows all their own food, or makes all their own clothes?" he asked.

"We have promoted the idea that some dependencies are O.K., while others are not. For instance, it is all right to need a



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Tour EU31 BEST OF EUROPE 8 Days. Germany (Rhine Cruise) Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, and France. June 15.

Tour B16 BRITISH ISLES AND IRELAND 14 Days. Aug. 14.

Tour SP6 AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND 16 Days. Oct 13.

Tour HL58 HOLY LAND/PETRA 10 Days. Nov. 4.

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HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

May 8, 1997

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Office of Communication.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE ON PREACHING AND WORSHIP

First Baptist Church, Greenwood

May 12-13, 1997

PURPOSE: To provide an in-depth workshop on Bible teaching, focusing on preparation and delivery – practical helps for workshop preparation.

FINANCES: There is no charge for this conference.

PERSONNEL: **Waylon Bailey**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Oxford, MS
Al Fasol, professor of preaching/teaching, Western Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX
Edgar Lee Wright, pastor, Morgantown Baptist Church, Morgantown, WV
Jim Futral, pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, MS
Frank Pollard, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson, MS
Allen Harris, minister of music, North Central Baptist Church, Oxford, MS
Dot Pray, keyboard consultant, Church Music Department, MCB

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"Preparing the Preacher"
"What Amos Know About Worship"
"Maximize the Message: Developing the Sermon"
"So God Has Called You to Preach?"
"Maximize the Message: Effective Sermon Delivery"
"So You Have to Preach Every Week!"

Workshops:

Preaching as Story Telling
Interpreting Mark 9:33-37

The Ten Most Important Things I've Learned Since I Left the Seminary
Preaching to the Same Small Crowd
Simple Lessons in Creative Worship
Making Special Days Special
Worship Ideas for the Smaller Church
Evaluating Biblical Authority in a Sermon
Pastoral Survival/Effectiveness in the Smaller Church

Registration Form

Mississippi Conference on
PREACHING AND WORSHIP

FBC, Greenwood • May 12-13, 1997

Name _____

Church Position _____

Church Name _____

Church Address _____ City/Zip _____

Church Phone Number _____

Association Name _____

Mail to **Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department**
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

"Helping to Bring Mississippi and the World to Jesus"

RISK SOMETHING
NEW

ASSOCIATIONS

Pushing the boundaries

Associational Missions Week, May 19-25, 1997

Today's association of churches reaches into its community as it risks new ways to share God's eternal Word.

Even in everyday, ordinary life, there are extraordinary ways to share Christ.

Today's association of churches is taking the risk.
Taking the risk for God.

Associational Leadership Training

6:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

May 19 FBC, New Albany
May 19 FBC, McComb
May 20 FBC, Starkville
May 20 FBC, Biloxi
May 22 FBC, Clinton
May 22 Oakhurst BC, Clarksdale

There will be training sessions for the following associational leaders:

- Directors of Missions
- Brotherhood directors and men's and boys' directors
- Christian Action chairmen
- Discipleship Training directors and age group directors (no Bible Drill or recreation at this session)
- Evangelism directors
- Media Library directors
- Music directors (no age group or keyboard at this session)
- Pastoral Ministries directors
- Prayer Coordinators
- Stewardship directors
- Sunday School ASSISTeam directors only (no age group or VBS)
- WMU – all directors, general officers, and Women On Mission, Acteens, Girls in Action, and Mission Friends directors/consultants

For further information, contact your Director of Missions or Don Q. Wilson, Missions Extension Department, MCB at 601/968-3800 or 800/748-1651.

1997 STATE SINGLES RETREAT

"Getting On Track"

GULF SHORE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY • MAY 24 - 26

Conference

- "Recipes for Happy Singles"
- "Adventure Recreation for Singles"
- "Men's Ministry"
- "Single-Parenting"
- "Living with Integrity (Sex, Dating, Spiritual Character)"
- "Recovering from Losses"
- "Spiritual Gifts"
- "Women's Ministry"
- "Start a Revolution" (Leadership)



COST

\$87.60 (Unit A - two in a room)
\$81.30 (Unit C - four in a room)

SEND TO:

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, 100 First Street
Pass Christian, MS 39571

A Ministry of Your Cooperative Program

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
Discipleship & Family Ministry Department

"Helping to Bring Mississippi and the World to Jesus"

In Christ: Making a Difference



Gulfshore Baptist Assembly
Pass Christian

SPEAKERS:

Bill Baker
May 20-23

Keith Carpenter
May 26-28

John Yates
May 29-31

For more information,
please call the
Discipleship and Family
Ministry Department of
the Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board
at 1-800-748-1651
or 968-3800 in
Jackson.

Come Join the Fun!

Blue Mountain Young Musicians Music & Drama Camp

for children who have finished grades 4-6

July 21-25

Featuring the musical **Project: Love!** by Dennis & Nan Allen

Music classes **Worship** **Crafts**
Drama Classes **Recreation** **Swimming**

Guest director: Dr. Susan Messer, director
Apprentice Choir, Houston Children's Chorus, Houston, Tex.

Worship leaders: Stephen Evans, pastor
Frank Nix, musician

Cost: \$90

For registration information call Sarah Talley, Church Music
Department at 601/968-3800 or 800/748-1651.



Come, hang out with us for . . .

ACP SOFTWARE TRAINING FOR ASSOCIATIONAL CLERKS AND ACP ENTRY PERSONS

June 24 & 25, 1997 in the Baptist Building Skyroom

(Repeat conferences, choose one.)

Join us for a time of hands-on software training on the 1997 ACP software for associations and churches.

9:30 a.m. - Refreshments 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. - Software Training

Deadline for registration is MAY 30.* Since a limited number of spaces are available, registration is on a first-come-first-served basis.
To register, please fill out the registration form below.

ACP SOFTWARE REGISTRATION FORM

ALL SLOTS ARE FULL FOR JUNE 24, 1997 SOFTWARE TRAINING.

___ I wish to attend the software training on Wednesday, June 25, 1997.

Name _____ Association _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Associational Position _____ Business Phone _____

If you are carpooling with another association, please let us know. If more than one person per association is attending, please duplicate this form.
We will provide lunch and travel expense for ONE person per association.

Please return this form to: Brenda Quattlebaum, MBCB, Office of Communication, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

*Registration is limited to associational clerks/entry persons only.
Sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST YOUTH NIGHT '97

*Challenging Today's
Youth for Christ*

Same program —
choose one to attend

July 25, 1997 • 7 p.m.

July 26, 1997 • 10 a.m.

MISSISSIPPI
FAIRGROUNDS
COLISEUM

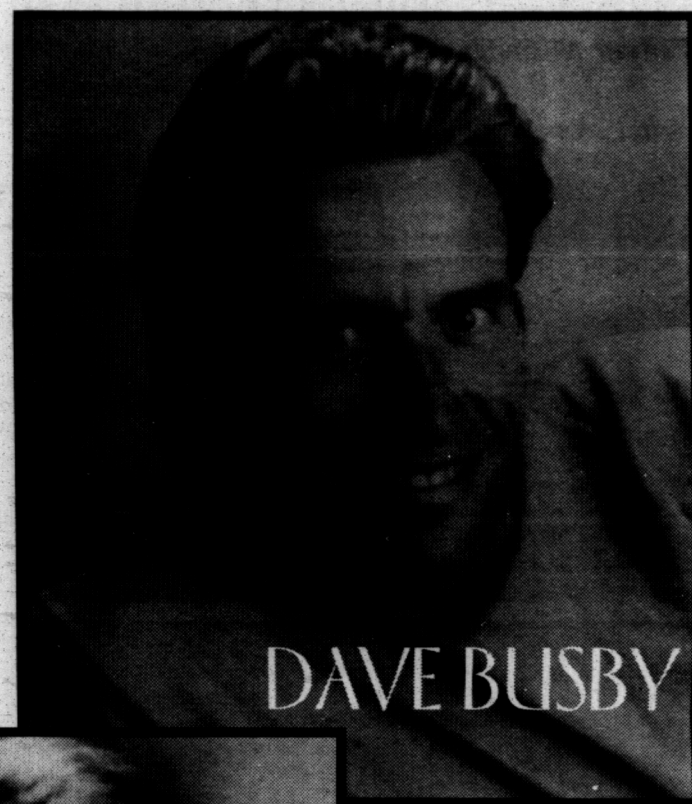
Program

Featured Speaker -- DAVE BUSBY
Full-Time Evangelist, Edina, Minn.

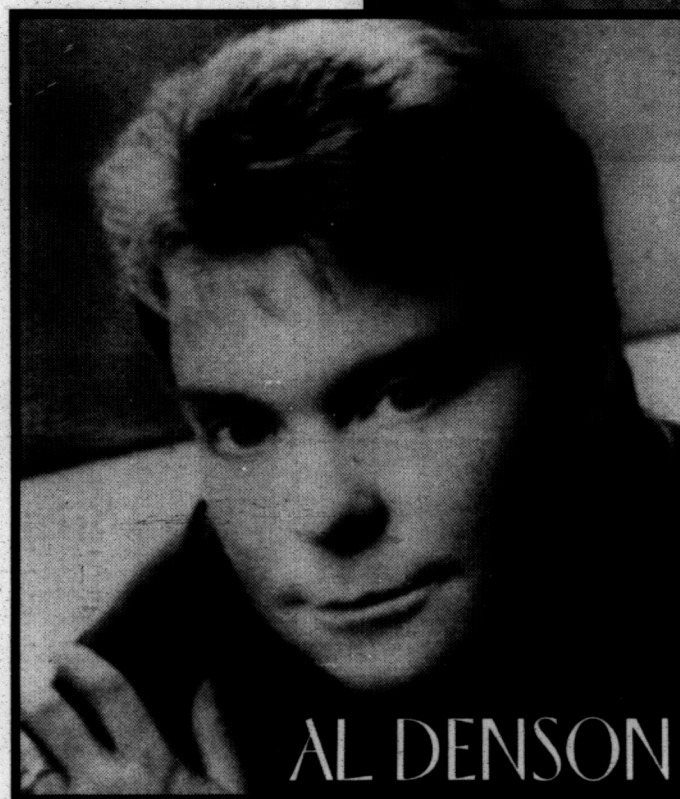
Guest Vocal Artist -- Al Denson
Christian Recording Artist, Dallas, Texas

Purpose Statement

Mississippi Baptist Youth Night's purpose is to provide the youth of Mississippi the opportunity to gather for a contemporary worship celebration led by creative communicators of the gospel resulting in edifying believers and reaching others for Christ.



DAVE BUSBY



AL DENSON

Guidelines

- Encourage your youth to bring their unsaved and inactive friends
- Encourage each person to bring a Bible
- Appropriate dress is requested
- No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illegal drugs will be permitted
- No radios or taping equipment will be permitted
- Counselor training at 6:15 p.m. on Friday and 9:15 a.m. on Saturday

A ministry of your Cooperative Program
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD
Bill Causey, Executive Director-Treasurer
Eugene Dobbs, Executive Assistant
Matt Buckles, YOUTH NIGHT Committee Chairman

"Helping to Bring Mississippi and the World to Jesus"

A LOVE OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED (a gift of \$1 per person is suggested)

Pray this day for...

May 9-22, 1997

Prayer Ministry Office • P. O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 968-3800, Ext. 3904 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-PRAY

Praying America Back to God

"All true revivals have been born in prayer. When God's people become so concerned about the state of religion that they lie on their faces day and night in earnest supplication, the blessing will be sure to fall."

- E.M. Bounds

Mother's Day - Acts 9:36 - Dorcas is kindred to all mothers; she distinguished herself by her giving. Today let us remember Christian mothers everywhere who reveal Christ through their giving.

Thank God that newly appointed missionaries Kenneth & Melissa Heiland and Phillip & Leslie Holmes are in orientation for going to Peru. Continue praying for all the adjustments they are and will be making.

For Preaching/Worship Conference; FBC, Greenwood; 1 pm, 12th-4 pm, 13th (CAPM)

For continued opportunities for each Baptist representative in Morocco to be able to share the Good News with everyone who is seeking to listen. Pray that eyes and ears may be open to see and hear the opportunities God makes possible.

Pray for missionaries Gary and Bobbi Inman and Ron and Kendall Herriott in Senegal as they learn the Solof language. Pray too for Tim and Julie Cline as they begin refresher classes after furlough.

5 1/2 million people of Andra Pradesh, India are Muslim. A casual encounter recently led to an invitation into a home and prayer. Pray for harvesters to present the truth of the gospel through loving, understandable actions and words.

In April, the Singapore Bapt. Conv. commissioned Bro. Lean as a missionary/evangelist to the Teochew-speaking people of the Riau Islands. Give thanks for the growing missionary spirit among the Baptist churches of Singapore.

Missionaries serving in Lima, Peru request prayer for the women's work in the churches. Pray that they will become involved in starting missions organizations.

Missionary Greg Smith in Costa Rica is beginning prayer walks. Pray for him as he intercedes for people who share needs with him. Pray that a new work will be established in Costa Rica as a result of this ministry.

Pray for Anton and Renier, two South African medical students, as they observe medical care at Jibla Baptist Hospital, Yemen.

For Chaplains Retreat; Gulfshore Assembly; 5 pm, 9th-1 pm, 10th (MEAA)

For Jerry & Barbara Clower as they present the need of a Hokkien-language ministry to churches in Singapore. Pray that at least one additional Baptist church will begin work among the 465,000 Hokkien-speaking people of Singapore in 1997.

For Neighborhood Bible Club Clinics; FBC, Louisville/Ridgecrest BC, Madison/FBC, Horn Lake/38th Ave. BC, Hattiesburg; 9:30 am-12:30 pm (SS)

The Korean Baptist FMB is only 10 years old but already has 180 missionaries serving in 31 countries! Pray that adequate nurturing and encouragement will be given to the many Koreans who are considering international missions.

Super Summer Mississippi is for the young person who is a mature and responsible Christian leader. Mississippi College is the host for Super Summer, July 21-25. Young people attending Super Summer Mississippi spend approximately 20 hours in evangelism and discipleship training. Quality youth leaders from our state lead our youth in study. Youth are trained in how to share their faith, how to have a quiet time, how to memorize scripture, how to find God's will for their lives, and more. They are also challenged and equipped to utilize their talents to penetrate their culture for Christ in creative and effective ways. Throughout Super Summer young people are encouraged to use the freedom they have in Christ to change the world.

Super Summer '97

with Mike Curry

July 21-25

Mississippi College, Clinton



Guidelines for all SS candidates

1. Demonstrates leadership qualities and is a growing Christian.
2. Faithful involvement in worship, Sunday School, and Wednesday night youth activities.
3. Complete at least one level of a discipleship study (i.e. Survival Kit, DiscipleYouth, DiscipleNow...).
4. Memorized a minimum of 10 scripture verses relating to discipleship, evangelism, or a disciple study.
5. Share their personal testimony with the youth group.
6. Share the Gospel with at least one person this year.
7. Completed at least the 8th grade in 1997, but not yet in college.
8. Agree to attend all SS sessions.

Name _____
Church _____ Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____
State/Zip _____

Return this form to:
Discipleship & Family Ministry Dept., MBCB
P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530

Financial Requirements

The total cost for Super Summer during the registration period is \$140 per student and adult; amount includes food, housing in the school dormitory, materials, and T-shirt.

Request For Registration Packet

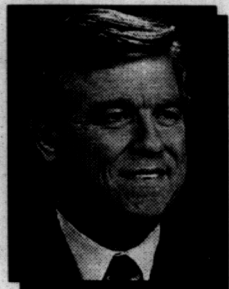
REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 15 AND ENDS JUNE 30 - All applications received after June 30 will be subject to a \$25 late fee. Applications received after July 7 may be refused. Space is limited.

HOUSE TOPS

Barbour to keynote MC commencement

Former Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour of Yazoo City will be the featured speaker May 10 at Mississippi College's 171st commencement exercises, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. in Robinson-Hale Stadium on the school's Clinton campus.

An honorary doctor of humane letters degree will be presented to philanthropist and



Barbour

community activist Frank Day of Jackson, chairman and chief executive officer of Trustmark Corporation in Jackson.

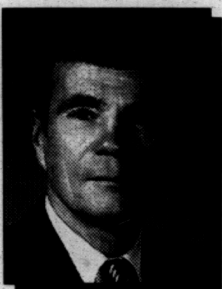
The invocation will be delivered by Larry W. Kennedy, vice-president of church relations and chaplain and dean of the Cooper School of Missions at William Carey College in Hattiesburg.

The benediction will be given by John L. Perkins Sr., director of missions for Northwest Association in Hernando.

Barbour, currently practicing law with the Barbour, Griffith, and Rogers firm with offices in both Mississippi and Washington, D.C., is serving as

immediate past chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Day, an Aberdeen native, serves as a director for the Metropolitan Jackson Boys and Girls Clubs, Jackson Metro Housing Partnership, and several other community organizations, as well as treasurer for the Public Education Forum of Mississippi.



Day

"Frank truly believes in enriching the community and our collective quality of life. Mississippi College feels it is time to recognize his efforts and enduring vision," said college president Howell W. Todd.

The Mississippi College graduating class includes 370 candidates for bachelor's degrees, 145 for master's degrees, and 120 for the doctor

of jurisprudence degree from the School of Law.

In the event of inclement weather, ceremonies will be held in A.E. Wood Coliseum on the campus, with overflow seating in Swor Auditorium in Nelson Hall.

BMC alumnae plan reunion

Blue Mountain College (BMC) in Blue Mountain will host a meeting of the National Alumnae Association and a Reunion Weekend May 16-17 on the school's campus. Activities will begin with registration at 4 p.m. on May 16 and conclude at 3 p.m. on May 17.

Featured speaker will be Rose Alldridge Bear, a Grenada native and 1977 BMC graduate currently serving as Baptist Student Union Director at Indiana State University. She is also a trustee for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

A special breakfast will be held to recognize the 50-year reunion of the class of '47. Other graduation classes to be recognized during the weekend include '37, '42, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, and '96.

Additional events planned for the weekend include a picnic, "Follies" show, society open houses, luncheon, and individual class meetings.

For more information, contact BMC at (601) 685-4771.



Bear

REVIVAL DATES

First, Lucedale: May 11-14; Sunday, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Tues., 7 p.m.; Wed., area wide crusade, George County High School stadium, Rick Stanley, stepbrother to the late Elvis Presley, evangelist; Kent Vincent and the Eastern Eyes, music; John L. Turner, pastor.

Beulah, Decatur: May 11-14; Sunday, 10:50 a.m., fellowship meal, and 6:50 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; James Messer Sr., evangelist; Kenny Wilkenson, music; Byron Howell, pastor.

Oral, Sumrall: May 18-21; Sunday, 11 a.m., covered dish lunch, and 7 p.m. each evening; Step Martin, Shreveport, La., evangelist; Price Harris, Shreveport, La., music; Thomas McCormick, pastor.

County Line, Carthage: June 1-4; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jimmy Kettleman, Leakesville, evangelist; Tony McDaniel,

Kosciusko, music; Paul Williamson, interim pastor.

Springfield, Natchez: May 11-14; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Gary Jackson, Sturgis, evangelist; Griff Toney, Springfield Church, music; Gene Rowland, pastor.

Bay Springs Church, Jasper Association, has called Stephen J. Huber as pastor effective April 27.

A native of Shreveport, La., Huber received his education at Louisiana State University, New Orleans Seminary, and Southeastern Seminary. His previous place of service was First Church, Lambert.



Huber

STAFF CHANGES

Graceland Church, Jackson County, has called Dewey Moore as pastor effective April 6. A native of Edinburg, Moore

attended Clarke College and Mississippi College. He previously served as pastor of Magnolia Church, Vancleave.



H. O. Haywood, pastor of Concord Church in Noxubee Association for 30 years, has retired. The church named Haywood as Pastor Emeritus. A reception was held in his honor on Feb. 23. Haywood and his wife Dolia are making Macon their retirement home. Pictured, from left, are W. T. Hightower and C. F. Jackson, deacons; Jerry F. Zgarba, interim pastor; Haywood; Roy Stuart and Nick Clark, deacons.

A Word from Phil Glisson

God has been good to me to allow me to work with many dedicated pastors and their churches the past 26 years. I have had the privilege of preaching in some of God's choice churches, small, large and in-between. One of the greatest joys I get in life is being able to be a complement to a pastor and his ministry. If I can ever be of service to you, please feel free to write or call.



"Thank you for the tremendous work you did during the revival meeting. This past Sunday, people were still telling me decisions that they had made during the week that will have a strong impact on our church for years to come."

— Walter Blackman, FBC, Marion, MS

"We had a great week together and experienced one of the most productive revival meetings in many years. In addition to the folks saved and additions by letter, we saw life changing decisions made in the homes of Christians. The very next Sunday following our meeting, we had the largest number of prospects we have had in the last couple of years. The revival made this possible. Our church has experienced a breath of fresh air."

— Don Moseley, FBC of Sylvan Hills, North Little Rock, AR

"Phil Glisson is ablaze with the glory of God and the authority of Christ. He is a local church evangelist and preaches to help your congregation. God has gifted him to draw the net."

— Roger Freeman, FBC, Clarksville, TN

"Our people loved you and your ministry. I am going to recommend you to every pastor I know."

— Steve Gaines, FBC, Gardendale, AL

"Thank you for the great week of revival we enjoyed together. We praise the Lord for all the decisions and trust that there will be more in the days to come. Your messages were right on target and well received by the folks at Hillcrest."

— Gene Richards, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Franklinton, LA

"It has been my privilege to have Phil as our evangelist in several churches where I have served. Although we have had great meetings with other preachers, none has been more effective than Phil. He preaches the Word boldly and plainly. Because he has grown up in a pastor's home, he knows the pastor's heart. He knows what the church needs. Do yourself a favor by inviting him to preach in your church."

— Dave Cavanaugh, Logan Elm Baptist Church, Circleville, OH

Evangelist Phil Glisson

3638 Macon Road
Memphis, TN 38122

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or

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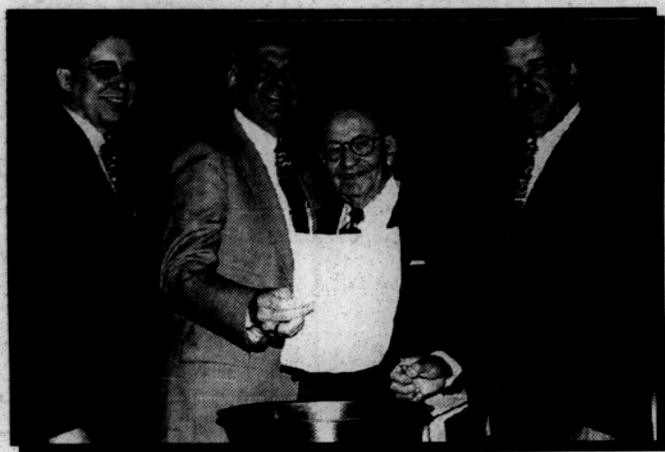
Call today for free information:

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JUST FOR THE RECORD



First Church, Summit, held note burning services on April 13 for a sanctuary, education building, recreation building, and parking lot at a cost in excess of \$370,000. Pictured (from left) are Charles Wallace, minister of music/education; Roger Graves, chairman, stewardship committee; John McCall, interim pastor; and Gary Spence, chairman of deacons.

First Church, Lake, is searching for a bivocational music director. For more information, write Bruce Weems, chairman of the search committee; P. O. Box 278; Lake MS 39092; or call (601) 775-3876.

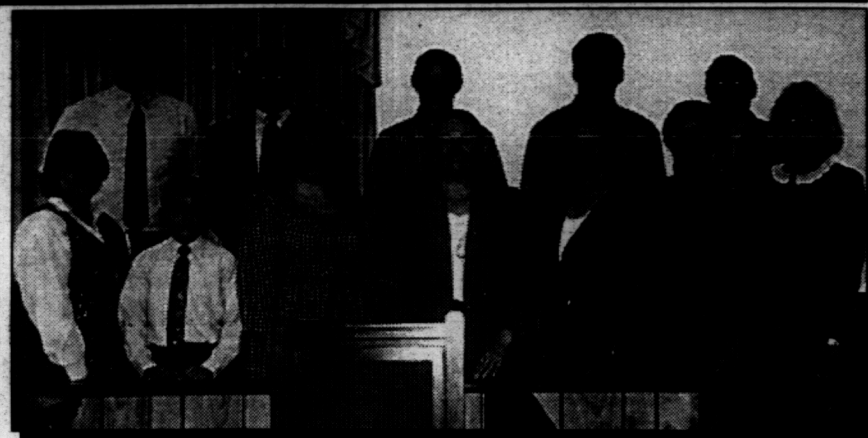
P a t Lowery, president of **Christian Aerobic Resource** of

Fort Worth, Texas, will lead the workshop "Positive Steps to Personal Fitness and Fitness Ministry," May 19, 6-9 p.m., at New Orleans Seminary. Organized in conjunction with the conference "Recreation Programs for Women," the

Monday evening workshop also examines the role of fitness in the women's ministry of a church. For more information, call the Office of Continuing Education (800) 662-8701 or (504) 282-4455, ext. 3260.

Faithfully Fit Fitness Program, sponsored by First Church, Jackson, will be held at the Family Life Center. Dates and times are May 16 from 6-9:30 p.m. and May 17 from 8:30 a.m.-noon. For more information or to register call 1-800-650-9908.

Pinckney Church, Union, will celebrate its 150th anniversary on Aug. 3. Morning services, beginning at 10 a.m., will consist of speeches presented by all former church leaders in attendance. Dinner will be served in fellowship hall following the morning services. Historical facts of the church



Algoma Church, Algoma, recently honored members for perfect attendance in Sunday School. Pictured receiving awards (front row, left to right) are Sue Barlow, 13 years; Tyler Arnold, 1 year; Kourtney Barlow, 13 years; Hilda Smith, 2 years; Jill Self, 2 years; Weezie Corder, 1 year; and Brenda Seale, 2 years; (second row) Scott Foster, 2 years; Landis Fair, 5 years; Brooks Corder, 6 years; Jake Arnold, 3 years; and Ruble Winters, 7 years. Don Smith is pastor.

beginning with the year of 1847 will be presented. The church asks each family that is and has been members at Pinckney Church to send pictures and

other memorabilia of their family, both past and present. Mail these items to Pinckney Baptist Church, 590 Stamper Pond Road, Union, MS 39365.

BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS

William Carey College Music Department will present a series of concerts as part of its 1997 Summer Guitar Festival June 14-20 in Smith Auditorium. Miroslav Loncar, assistant professor of music and artist in residence, and Natasa Klasinc will present a guitar duo at 8 p.m. on June 15. Zeke Guin will perform June 16 at 8 p.m. The Birmingham Guitar Quartet will present a concert June 17 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium and Anna Magdalena, a contemporary Christian rock singer and guitarist, will perform June 18 at 8 p.m. Douglas Back, a classical guitarist, will perform June 19 at 8 p.m. A student's concert will be held June 20 at 4 p.m. For information about the price of admission and the concert series call (601) 582-6175. The festival will also feature a collegiate guitar compe-

tition, master classes, and pre-college guitar workshops. The competition will be held June 14. A pre-college guitar workshop will be held June 15-20 beginning at 9 a.m. and conclude at 9:30 p.m. For more information about the competition and workshops call (601) 268-0627.

William Carey College summer baseball camps to be held during the month of June will feature individualized instruction and team play. Youngsters ages 7-12 may choose to attend a day camp June 9-13 or June 23-27. A day camp for ages 13-17 will be conducted June 16-20. Applications can be obtained by calling (601) 582-6110 or 582-6192, or by writing Coach Bobby Halford, William Carey College, 498 Tuscan Avenue Box 182, Hattiesburg, MS 39401-5499.

The Continuing Education Office at Mississippi College has announced the Summer '97 offerings for the Pace Programs that will be available to adults and children. The children's programs will include "Stage Struck," July 14-18; "Experiences with Sculpture," July 7-11; "Art Adventure," June 23-27; and Effective Study Skills," July 21-25. Adult offerings will include The Mississippi College Real Estate Certification Program, call (601) 925-3264; The Kodaly Certification Workshop, call

(601) 925-3443; and The Classroom 2000 Workshop, call (601) 925-3263. Special interest and family concern include The Computer Genealogist, July 10, 17, and 24; The Grantsmanship Workshop, June 9-13, call (601) 925-3263; Beginning American Sign Language, July 29 and 30, Aug. 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, and 21; Calligraphy for Beginners, July 7-Aug. 4; and Intermediate Calligraphy, July 2-30. For additional information concerning any PACE course, call (601) 925-3265.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

The month of May is Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalopathy (CFIDS/ME) Awareness Month. All of us have been fatigued, but comparing general tiredness to CFIDS is like comparing a wind gust to a hurricane. CFIDS/ME affects many body systems and can often be totally disabling, as it has been for me.

Obtaining a diagnosis early on and beginning a treatment protocol are essential to recovery from, and coping with, the disease. Vital information and support are available at CFIDS/ME meetings at 1:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month at River Oaks Hospital in Jackson. On May 12 — International CFIDS/ME Awareness Day — an information booth at Metrocenter Mall in Jackson will be staffed from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Information is also available by calling (800) 44-CFIDS.

Ken Cook
Brandon

Editor's note: Cook is the former pastor of several churches in the central Mississippi area.

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Jackson 957-3762**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The Baptist Sunday School Board is seeking an Assistant Director of the Church Leadership Services Division. This person will be responsible to the Director for the overall operation of assigned areas. Areas of responsibility could include development of strategic and business plans, budgets, reports, publishing operations, marketing and personnel.

The ideal candidate for this position will have a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration preferred. Must have a minimum of ten years strong, progressive business experience. Extensive knowledge of the Southern Baptist Convention. Function well as an assistant while still developing team, building consensus, helping set goals, and keeping the Division focused and functioning effectively. Southern Baptist required.

If qualified and interested, please send resume or fax to:

**BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
MSN 121, 127 9TH AVENUE, NORTH
NASHVILLE, TN 37234
Fax: 615-251-5017**

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DONAHUE BAPTIST CHURCH, in Pineville, LA, a growing church with programs for all ages is currently accepting resumes for the position, Music Worship Leader. Those interested may call the church office at (318) 640-0610, Fax (318) 640-0790, or mail to 2900 Donahue Ferry Road, Pineville, LA 71360.

COPIER FOR SALE — Canon NP6650. 50 copies per minute/extra features. Call for price 601-845-2736.

VOICE MAIL SYSTEM FOR SALE — Reasonably priced. Call Cliff at (601) 644-9922 Ex. 1.

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DESTIN, FL. CONDO. Sleeps four. Excellent location, Great rates. 1-800-484-2883 "code" 6381.

NOTCH ESTATES—BRANSON, MO. CONDO, 1 mile west of Silver Dollar City. 2BR, 2BA, sleeps 6. Stay 3 nights, 4th free; or 4 nights, 5th free. Free continental breakfast. \$95 daily. (601) 746-4632.

RIDGECREST, NC — 3 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, equipped kitchen, large living-dining, large sun room, extra beds. 3 minutes to conference center. \$95 per night. (704) 669-7273

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FAMILY BIBLE SERIES

Provision for the redeemed

Revelation 7:1-3, 9-10, 13-17

By Paul Blanchard

Truth: The redeemed people of God will praise and serve him, and God will meet all their needs. The vision of the Apostle John can provide assurance of our salvation and God's care for believers.

The vision was of angels, four holding back the winds and one with the great seal of God. John also saw a great multitude of people praising Jesus, dressed in robes of pure white. An elder told John that the multitudes were those children of God who came out of the great tribulation and had been washed clean in the blood of the Lamb (7:15-17).

Many people wonder who the 144,000 mentioned in Revelation 7 are. The scripture

says that there were 12,000 each from the tribes of Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin. You will notice that the idolatrous tribe of Dan is left out, replaced by the half-tribe of Manasseh.

The scripture teaches that God has 144,000 elect Jews who are going to be his special messengers during this time. They will be like the 144,000 great evangelists going up and down the land proclaiming the truth of God and explaining the Great Tribulation.

Today there are many groups who claim to be the 144,000. Some people keep the Sabbath of Saturday and claim



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that worshipping on Sunday is the mark of the beast. Some say that the 144,000 simply represent the church, considering the church to be the "spiritual Israel." God is dealing with the literal Israel, and there is no reason to believe otherwise. There is nothing in Revelation 7 to make one think this is not literally 144,000 Jews.

Our Lord has two concerns for his beloved redeemed children. He desires that they be properly recognized. To ensure this, the scripture states that the elder moves closer to the Apostle John and tells him that these are the children of God which came out of the Great Tribulation. God is also concerned that his redeemed children be properly rewarded. He is going to bestow upon them the highest possible dignity. They are before the very throne of God so they can look directly into the face of Jesus! Oh,

what a day that will be!

The scripture states, "They serve him day and night in his temple." These saints of God are not the 144,000 previously discussed, but rather saved gentiles. These saints of God are marked for the happiest possible destiny and to enjoy God's broadest protection. John writes that God will dwell with them.

They also enjoy God's boundless provision. All is from God, through Jesus.

Last of all, they enjoy God's blessed presence. "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them into living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Their reward is to be close to the Lamb. He will be their shepherd, dedicated to their welfare, their happiness, and their undying bliss. No reward could be greater than that.

There are many promises revealed in this passage. There will be no tears in Heaven.

There will be no sorrow in Heaven. God will be present with his children for all eternity. They will be his children and he will be their God. There will be no more death, sickness, or pain. All former things have passed away. The greatest fact of heaven, is that we will be with Jesus.

The Bible says in I Corinthians 2:9, "But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

Have you received Jesus as your Savior and Lord? He died on the cross and shed his blood for you. He paid the price for your sin that you could never pay yourself. Trust him as Savior and Lord today. Let him come into your life today and forgive your sins. The Bible says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Blanchard is Director of Missions, Winston Association.

LIFE AND WORK

Gifted by the spirit

Romans 12:6-10a; I Cor. 12:4-6, 8-10, 31b; Eph. 4:11-13; I Peter 4:8-11

By Becky Bennett

I love to receive gifts. It doesn't have to be a large gift or an expensive gift. It doesn't even have to be wrapped in a pretty package. I just love the feeling I have when someone gives me a gift. God has given us so many gifts: His Son, the Spirit, eternal life, the Bible—the list could go on and on. We Christians miss valuable blessings in our lives however, when we don't discover and use the spiritual gifts that God gave us.

Source of Gifts (I Cor 12:4-6). The Spirit is a gift God gives to all of his children. God also

gives his children certain gifts for them to use in service for Christ. The gifts are different but there is no doubt the gifts come from God through the Spirit. God works through all of the gifts he has given to his children to bring about his purposes. Every Christian is a gifted person. Though there are a variety of gifts there is only one source. The source of our gifts is God.

Variety of Gifts (I Cor 12:8-10; Rom 12:6-8; Eph 4:11). God is the source of our gifts and he is not limited by the finite mind of man. God's list of gifts goes on and on. The New Testament



Bennett

lists are different, therefore we might conclude that God did not intend to give us an exact list. The differences in the gifts illustrate God's wonderful plan of service. We each have jobs and tasks to do and God has gifted us in order to perform those works of service. We are different, therefore, our gifts are different. God intended for our gifts to be different for the good of his church. The reference in Romans leads us to an excellent teaching. Whatever our gift is, we should use it to the very best of our ability. It is not the gift that matters. The most important thing to remember is we must unwrap the gift and use it!

Purpose of Gifts (Eph 4:12-13; I Pet 4:10-11). God gives us gifts so we may serve. Pride has no place in spiritual gifts. After all, we had nothing to do with

providing the gift. We cannot take credit for it. No one gift is better than another. The ultimate purpose of our gifts from God is for all Christians to use their gifts in "building the body of Christ and in reaching unity in the faith and knowledge of the Son of God." Peter admonishes us to use our gifts to the best of our ability and to do so entirely for the glory of God.

Context of Gifts (Rom 12:9-10a; I Cor 12:31b; I Pet 4:8). While the scripture is not specific about the lists of spiritual gifts, it is very specific about the context of spiritual gifts. The context is love. The love Christians share must be deep and sincere, leading to devotion to one another.

Paul tells us in I Corinthians that action and service surrounded by love is the most excellent way. If you struggle with pride concerning your spiritual gifts or if you are trying to

repair a broken relationship with a Christian brother or sister, take time now to read the thirteenth chapter of I Corinthians. It is the most excellent way to serve. All gifts of service to God are to be wrapped in love.

Peter states the context of spiritual gifts even more clearly and with fewer words. All gifts of service must be motivated by a deep love for each other, because "love covers over a multitude of sins." God's love for us, shown in the sacrifice of his Son, covers our sin toward him. We must let our love for each other cover our faults and differences. Would your church be different if every member discovered and used their spiritual gifts? What changes would you see in your church if each member let love be the only motivation for exercising their spiritual gifts?

Bennett is Dean of Students at Blue Mountain College.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Rejecting misplaced trust

Isaiah 30:8-18, 26

By Greg McBride

The eighth century B.C. proved perilous for the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Beginning about 740 B.C. Assyria rose to dominate the Near East. In their rise they destroyed the northern kingdom of Israel and subjugated the southern kingdom of Judah to living under their rule and paying tribute. When Hezekiah became king of Judah in 715 BC many citizens pushed for independence from Assyria. Egypt's resurgence as a strong military machine at that time caused Judah to look to them for aid in throwing off the

Assyrian yoke. This military alliance, however, was contrary to God's will for Judah. God sent Isaiah to Judah to speak against this turn of events.

Refusing to Listen (30:8-9). The people of Judah were of no mind to give heed to God's word through Isaiah. They had set their minds on a particular course of action. They had decided to turn to Egypt for deliverance from Assyria instead of trusting in God. In the face of such stubbornness God instructed Isaiah to write down his word of prophecy as a witness to a later time.



McBride

Although Judah refused to listen, God's word would remain.

Twisting God's Word (30:10-11). Messengers should warn us not to fall into the trap of demanding preachers and teachers to always send us away feeling good about ourselves. Many times God's word is piercing to the point of making us feel bad about our sin. Only when we face our sin and repent can times of refreshing come from the presence of the Lord.

Receiving Judgment (30:12-14). The word that Isaiah was to write down was a word of judgment against Judah for misplaced trust. God used two images to describe the judgment that was sure to come. The first image, a bulge in a wall which was about to collapse, pointed to the sudden-

ness of the coming judgment. Judgment was right on the verge of appearing. The second image, a pot utterly smashed into minute pieces (sherds), pointed to the completeness of the coming judgment. Whenever God's people stop trusting in him and start looking elsewhere for deliverance, judgment is sure to come quickly and completely.

Refusing Help (30:15-17). God's grace is always joined to his judgment and this pronouncement of judgment is no different. God pleaded with Judah to repent in order to avert the coming disaster. This appeal, however, went unheard. The people had placed their hope in the horses of Egypt. These horses were known for their speed and swiftness in military maneuvering.

The attitude of refusing to accept God's offer of help out

of sin is the final step in the road to rebellion. First we refuse to listen. Then we attempt to change God's word to fit our needs. Finally we openly rebel when God stretches out his arms to call us back to his side.

God's Offer of Security (30:18,26). This message of judgment that God commanded Isaiah to write down contained another "everlasting" word from the Lord. This word was a word of hope. Simply put, when God's people misplace their trust, and the thing they place their trust in fails them, they can know that God still longs to forgive them and to restore them. On the day that they repent God declares that he will respond to their obedience by showering them with blessings.

McBride is pastor, Kittiwake Church, Pass Christian.

Baptist church airs 'other side' of story

You can find the missing PEACE

The Prince of Peace extends a wonderful invitation to you.

1. His love gives us peace.

This is his promise:

"Perfect love casts out fear." (1 John 4:18) When we ask Christ into our lives, his love chases away fear.

2. His promise of eternal life gives us peace.

The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life." (Romans 6:23) God provides eternal life through the death and resurrection of his Son.

3. His promise to walk with us through life gives us peace.

Jesus said, "In me you may have peace. In this world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) Jesus extends his promise of peace to us, but we must respond by accepting him as the missing piece in our lives.

You can make that commitment today by, (1) admitting you need God, (2) confessing your sins to him, and (3) by faith, receiving Christ as Lord.

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Mississippi Baptist Church for spiritual guidance.

BEAUMONT, Texas (BP) — In one American city, viewers of the ABC/Walt Disney Company sitcom "Ellen" heard the other side of the story.

Two 30-second ads were produced by Calvary Church, Beaumont, Texas, for ABC affiliate KBMT in Beaumont offering reflections by Michael Johnson, president of a Newport News, Va., Christian outreach to homosexuals, Kerusso Ministries.

One of the church's ads aired at the conclusion of the one-hour episode in which comedian Ellen DeGeneres portrayed her character "coming out" as a homosexual — a declaration DeGeneres also made about her own homosexuality in advance of the April 30 show.

"Ellen is witty and she's talented," Johnson, a former homosexual who has AIDS, acknowledged in the second spot, "but the subject matter of tonight's episode is not a laughing matter. Looking back at the emotional and spiritual consequences of homosexuality in my own life ... standing here tonight with AIDS, I find it difficult to relate to the humor."

"The celebration of depravity degrades the individual. But the greatest tragedy of all (is) that so many are willing to accept a counterfeit for real love ... the love of God."

In Calvary's first ad on the show, Johnson said: "There is a lie out there. It promises acceptance, but delivers loneliness. It promises freedom, but delivers spiritual and emotional bondage. It promises life, but delivers death. Homosexuality ... it's full of broken promises. Hello, I'm Michael Johnson. I chose to believe those lies for years. Today, I've been set free. There is a key to freedom — his name is Jesus Christ."

Both ads concluded with an announcer saying, "Something to think about. From the members of Calvary Church."

Pastor John Powers said the two ads were aimed at "hitting while the iron was hot." He said he discussed the ads in two different church meetings and, "To a person, they said, 'Go for it.'"

Powers said the ads cost several thousand dollars to produce and air locally.

"Ellen" sponsors April 30 and their products, according to the American Family Association (AFA) in Tupelo, were:

◆ **Volkswagen Corporation:** Volkswagen, Audi, Porsche automobiles.

◆ **Bayer Corporation:** Alka-Seltzer; Midol and Actron pain relievers; One-A-Day and Flintstone vitamins; Phillips' Milk of Magnesia; S.O.S. soap pads; Femstat 3 feminine products; Stridex acne treatments.

◆ **News America Publishing, Inc.:** Fox Broadcasting Company; 20th Century Fox films.

◆ **Sony Corporation of America:** Columbia Pictures Industries and Tri-Star films; Columbia, Epic and CBS Records; Sony electronic products; Columbia House distributors; Loews theaters.

◆ **Time Warner Inc.:** CNN, Home Box Office and Cinemax cable services; PrimeStar satellite service; Warner Brothers productions; Time Life books; Turner Pictures and New Line Cinema; TIME, People, Parenting, Sports Illustrated, and Southern Living magazines; Turner Broadcasting System (TBS) and TNT Networks; Book of the Month Club.

◆ **Unilever United States Inc.:** Calvin Klein; Lipton tea and

soaps; Dove and Lever 2000 soaps; Degree deodorant; Finesse and Suave hair-care products; Q-tips; Pond's Cream; Vaseline products; Wisk detergent; Pepsodent and Mentadent toothpaste; Country Crock spread; Wish-Bone salad dressings; Ragù Italian foods; Wyler's drink mixes.

◆ **Warner-Lambert Company:** Listerine mouthwash; Trident gum; Certs breath mints; Roloids antacid; Actifed and Sudafed cold tablets; Benadryl; Halls cough drops; Neosporin; Parke-Davis pharmaceuticals; Lubriderm Lotion.

◆ **Burlington Coat Factory.**
◆ **Slimfast Foods Company.**

◆ **Viacom International, Inc.:** Blockbuster video stores; Music TV (MTV), Nickelodeon, Showtime and Viacom cable services; Paramount Pictures; Prentice Hall book publishing.

Four companies, according to AFA, have announced they will no longer advertise on any "Ellen" episode: J.C. Penney, Pizza Hut, Wendy's, and Wrigley chewing gum.

AFA noted, however, that Pizza Hut is a subsidiary of PepsiCo, which has not announced whether Pepsi products will be advertised on the show.

Meridian Bible conference scheduled for May 14-15

Northcrest Church, Meridian, will host the 1997 Preach the Word Bible Conference May 14-15 in the church's new 1,100-seat worship center at 3412 North Hills Street in Meridian.

Services will begin at 6:30 p.m. on May 14, and will feature music by Phil Cross and Poet Voices with the Northcrest Church Choir. The church's instrumental ensemble will also perform.

Terry Williams, pastor of Riverside Church, Waynesboro,

will preach. Max Burris, minister of music at Northcrest Church, will lead congregational singing. Sessions on May 15 are:

◆ 9 a.m. — Preachers include Rick Reeves, pastor of Hillcrest Church, Anniston, Ala.; Phil Smith, pastor of State Boulevard Church, Meridian; Williams; and Kara Blackard, pastor of Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth.

Music will be provided by Phil Cross and Poet Voices; and Northcrest Church staff evangelist Danny Lanier of Little Rock (Miss.). Barry Burris, minister of music at First Church, Quitman, will lead congregational singing.

◆ 1 p.m. — Preachers include evangelist Junior Hill of Hartselle, Ala.; Reeves; Lanier; and James Merritt, pastor of First Church, Snellville, Ga.

Music will be provided by Phil Cross and Poet Voices; and soloists Missy Davis, Tassie Stanley, and Jane Stone, all of Northcrest Church. Myron Burris, minister of music at First Church, Minden, La., will lead congregational singing.

◆ 6:45 p.m. — Preachers include Hill and Merritt. Music will be provided by Phil Cross and Poet Voices with the Northcrest Church Choir. Max Burris will lead congregational singing.

Coffee and donuts will be served at 8:30 a.m. on May 15. There is no charge for attending the conference. Childcare will be provided for all sessions.

For more information, contact Northcrest Church at (601) 482-3498. Malcolm Lewis is pastor.

Bibliocipher

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MFN, WV, YKT MFDTW
VG YKT WVHN IMST
PUVF YKTS, MFN YKT
DWVHX VG YKT WVHN
EKVFT HVPFN MOVPT
YKTS: MFN YKTX RTHT
EVHT MGHMLN.

WPBT YRV: ELFT

Clue: U equals P
Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Acts 3:6.



Ron Mumbower, Ph.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

LifeAnswers

How can I encourage my child to persevere when he wants to give up? When am I pushing too hard?

Look at the situation from all angles, including your child's viewpoint. It may be necessary for you to join him in his effort to persevere until he has the courage to stand on his own.

Take a break from the activity for the summer (or a month), and then start fresh.

Are there ways that the activity could be accomplished differently? Consider appropriate rewards and incentives that you may not have tried before. Has the child outgrown the activity? Has he filled that time with another activity?

Finally, make an honest determination of whether the activity is really worth all the effort in the much bigger scheme of his life.

Maybe the following observations will be helpful to you and other Christian parents are we approach the summer season:

If I Had My Child to Raise Over Again
By Diane Loomans

If I had my child to raise all over again,

I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.

I'd finger-paint more, and point the finger less.

I would do less correcting and more connecting.

I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.

I would care to know less and know to care more.

I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.

I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.

I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.

I'd do more hugging and less tugging.

I'd see the oak tree in the acorn more often.

I'd be firm less often, and affirm much more.

I'd model less about the love of power,

And more about the power of love.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.